

An ACCOUNT of
Some REGULATIONS
MADE IN
Trinity - College, DUBLIN,

Since the APPOINTMENT of
The present PROVOST
John Ashy Hutchinson Esq^r.
Written by himself.



TRINITY-COLLEGE, DUBLIN,

JANUARY 6th, 1775.

THE People of this Kingdom, of almost every Rank, are interested in the good or bad Conduct of the Head of this University; some Men may have their Motives for applauding, but many may be stimulated by Ambition, Interest, Electioneering Policy, or Prejudice, to misrepresent and censure his Conduct; the Publick, who have none of those Motives, should form their Opinions from Facts. They are here faithfully collected, and from a plain State of them, every reasonable Man may judge, whether this College has, or has not, obtained any Benefits, or received any Improvements, since the Appointment of the present Provost.

THAT Composition and Elocution were not sufficiently cultivated among us, has been generally acknowledged and lamented; the first Object of the Provost was to encourage an Attention to those long neglected Subjects; for this Purpose—

HE obtained from the Governors of *Erasmus Smith's* Schools, to which he is Treasurer, a Fund of 200*l.* yearly, to be given in Premiums for Composition and Elocution, at such Times, and in such Manner and Proportion, as the Provost and Senior Fellows, should, from Time to Time appoint.

BUT as a Foundation should be laid at School for those useful Accomplishments, he proposed the following Advertisement, which was afterwards published by Order of the Board :

“ WHEREAS the Right Honourable and
 “ Honourable the Governors of *Erasmus Smith's*
 “ Schools, have been pleased to grant the Sum
 “ of 200*l.* yearly, as a Fund for Premiums for
 “ Compositions, in *Greek, Latin and English*,
 “ and for Elocution in *Latin and English*; to be
 “ distributed by the Provost and Senior Fellows
 “ of this University in such Manner as they
 “ from Time to Time shall think proper: The
 “ several Schoolmasters and Tutors, who pre-
 “ pare young Gentlemen for the said University,
 “ are desired to take Notice, That from the 7th
 “ of July next, Compositions in *Latin and Eng-*
 “ *lish* Prose, and from the 7th of July 1776, in
 “ *Latin* Verse also, will be expected, from the
 “ several Candidates for Admission, at their Ex-
 “ aminations for Entrance; and that during the
 “ College Course, Judgments will be given, and
 “ Premiums distributed, for Composition in
 “ *Greek, Latin and English*; the like Encou-
 “ ragement will be given to Elocution in *Latin*
 “ and *English*: Of which Notice is given, that
 “ there

“there may be sufficient Time for Preparation.”

HE also applied to Government to be pleased to give Directions that Letters should be written to the several Schoolmasters, appointed by his Majesty in this Kingdom, to prepare their Scholars in such a Manner as to enable them to become proper Candidates for those Premiums: This Request was complied with; as Treasurer of *Erasmus Smith's* Schools, he has written Letters of the like Import to the several Schoolmasters upon that Foundation; and, at his Instance, the Schoolmaster of the School in *Kilkenny*, now in the Patronage of the College, has been written to from the Board, in the same Manner.

HE has also obtained from the said Governors a Sum of 2500*l.* towards building a Theatre for our publick Exercises and Exhibitions, and for delivering such Compositions of the Students as shall be approved of by the Provost and Senior Fellows, to be built in such Part of the said College as the Provost and Senior Fellows shall approve of, and as nearly as may be according to the Plan of the *Oxford* Theatre.

THE Board has, at his instance, agreed that such of the Batchelors as thought proper should give in Speeches to the Senior Lecturer, with or without Names, for the 30th of *January*, 29th of *May*, 4th of *June*, 23d of *October*, and 5th of *November*, on which Days occasional Orations are Annually made; that those Speeches shall be laid before the Board, that the best should

should be Spoken, and the Author of it receive a Premium *.

HE has directed the Oratory Professor and his Assistant, the Tutors, the Morning Lecturers, and the Censor to select the best Exercises given into them, and to hand them over to him to see which of them deserve to be distinguished in the same Manner.

A GENERAL Scheme for the Encouragement of Composition and Elocution, in the several Classes, is now, at his desire, under the Consideration of the Board; and there appears to be a fair Prospect of extending those important Attainments more generally in this University.

UPON his Proposal the Board resolved, that it would be highly beneficial to have Professors of Modern Languages, namely, *Spanish, French, Italian and German*, established in this College; he has applied to Government to grant a moderate Fund for that Purpose, and has declared his Intentions, if that application should fail, to give an annual Sum of Two Hundred Pounds, out of his Salary as Provost, for that useful Purpose; he has also proposed, and the Board has agreed, that there should be a Riding-House in the College for the use of the Students only. The two last mentioned Schemes will be a great Saving to this Country, will be the Means of

* Premiums in this College are given in Medals, or in Books, with the College Arms, and a Certificate of the Cause.

enabling young Gentlemen of Fortune to finish their Education at home, and will send them abroad more capable of receiving Improvement from their Travels, when they are acquainted with the Languages of the Countries which they visit.

THESE Institutions will be attended with this further Advantage:—The Gentlemen of this University, who would accept of private Tui-tions, though several of them are now Men of great Learning and Ability, would by those Accomplishments be rendered more useful to their Pupils; those Attainments may probably be powerful Inducements to the Nobility and principal Gentry, to commit their Sons to the Care of those Gentlemen, both at home and abroad; and it is well known what beneficial Consequences are frequently derived to the Tutors from such Connexions.

NOR have the great Branches of solid and useful Learning been neglected for the Cultivation of less important Objects.

THERE are several Professors in the College, of Divinity, Mathematicks, Natural Philosophy, Hebrew, Oratory, and Common Law; some of them founded and endowed by the Crown, others endowed by the Governors of *Erasmus Smith's* Schools; all filled by Men of great Knowledge and Ability, and some of them of as high Characters as perhaps ever filled those Chairs in any University; yet those Professorships have been all of them less useful, and some of them of little use by the Non-attendance

ance or the negligent Attendance of several of the Batchelors ; this will be for the future prevented by a Regulation proposed by the Provost, and adopted by the Board, obliging the Batchelors to attend the Lectures directed for that Profession for which they have declared, and Punishing them for not attending or for Negligence, by private Admonishment for the Offence of the first Term, publick Admonishment for the second, and removal from the College for the third :

THEIR Diligence and good Answering are to be encouraged.

PREMIUMS were formerly, and are now, given to the Divinity, and Greek Lectures ; it is determined, at his desire, to extend them to the Hebrew, Historical, Oratory, and Common Law Lectures.

FOR the latter it has been ordered that a good Common Law Library should be purchased, together with some of the most necessary Books for a lending Library, and that a convenient Room should be set apart for that Purpose ; the Common Law Professor is to Lecture twice in the Week in each Term, is to examine the Gentlemen in the Books they read, and to Examine publickly once in the Year, and the Board are to give Premiums in Law Books to the two best Answerers.

THIS Lecture which has been hitherto of little, or no Use in this University, is now placed upon such a Footing, as under the Superintendency of the Provost, who proposes to
assist.

assist in the yearly Examination, and sometimes to prelect, and in the Hands of the present able Professor, will make it a very great National Benefit to this Kingdom : Three Months in the Year, at most, will be sufficient to answer the four Terms in *England* ; the rest of the Year may be most usefully employed by the Law Students in this College under the Law Professor, and in endeavouring to improve and distinguish themselves in Composition, Elocution, and History.

It is obvious, if this Scheme succeeds, that it will be attended with a great Saving to this Country.

He has also proposed, and it has been determined, that the Apparatus for making the Experiments in Natural Philosophy shall be enlarged and compleated.

He is using his utmost Efforts for making the Offices of Divinity Lecturer and Divinity Professor more useful than they have been for many Years past ; and the best founded Expectations are entertained that his Endeavours in this Respect will be attended with the most useful and important Consequences.

THE Course of Education for Under Graduates in this University, in the general so justly approved, has in the Classcal Part, been complained of as defective in some Particulars ; it is now, after great Deliberation, settled that such Alterations and Improvements shall be made in it as will be highly beneficial to the Students of the four first Classes ; this Improvement

provement of the Undergraduate Course, and obliging the Batchelors in their respective Lines of Studies to attend the Professors of those Branches to which they are to apply, will form as complete a System of Education as any in *Europe*.

THE Number of Students is now five hundred and ninety-eight; the Buildings of the College contain two hundred and twenty-five only; this is a great Cause of Relaxation of Discipline, as the Officers of the College cannot be responsible for the Conduct of those who live in Town; to remedy this Inconvenience, the Provost has proposed and the Board has agreed to the erecting new Buildings which will form a Square, each Side of which will be about two hundred and twenty Feet in Length; and three Sides of it will be new; this is to be begun immediately.

HE has shut up all Access directly from the Town to the College Park, which had become a Publick Walk, and frequently for Company of the lowest and worst Kind, and was made a common Passage; it is now reserved solely for the Students; and it has been resolved at his Desire, that a Field for their Exercises shall be provided when it can be done with Convenience.

HE has also declared his Intentions of providing Common Rooms for the Accommodation of the Gentlemen of the College; one for the Fellows and Graduates, the other for the Undergraduates in the Manner of *Oxford* and *Cambridge* and as those

those Rooms will be supplied with News Papers, Tea, Coffee, &c. it is hoped it may be the Means, by making the College more agreeable to the Students, of preventing them from going so very frequently into Town.

IN a great and numerous University, situate in a Metropolis, Discipline is a most important Object ; as such he has attended to it with the utmost Care and Solitude : A moderate but exact Discipline is established ; the statutable Regulation of not going into the City without a written Permission from the Tutor, is strictly attended to ; the Number of Tardes, or coming in too late for Night Roll, restrained and determined ; a new Provision has been made as to Night Rolls, which has already been attended with the most salutary Effects ; missing a third Night Roll is now made punishable by Publick Censures, and a fourth, without a sufficient Excuse, by removal from the College ; he has encreased and fixed the Number of Chapels in a Week, and Divine Worship was never known to be better attended in this College ; he has abolished an improper Practice that had prevailed of some of the Students leaving Chapel before the Communion Service of a Sacrament *Sunday*.

FOR the Purpose of enforcing Discipline, he has made the Place of Senior Dean an active and effective Office ; it is now filled by one of the most respectable Senior Fellows, and the Office of Junior Dean, by one of the most respectable Junior Fellows ; those Gentlemen being of distinguished Characters as Disciplinarians, were prevailed upon at the earnest Desire of the Provost,

Provost, to undertake those difficult and important Offices ; Scholars are visited by those Gentlemen in their Rooms, and the Tutors also are ordered to visit their Pupils in their Rooms, and at stated Times at their Houses in Town, and no Pupil is to be allowed to continue at any House not approved of by his Tutor ; in a Word, nothing has been omitted that can enforce a mild and regular Discipline, without Rigor or Severity.

ALL Offences have been investigated with the strictest Attention, and Offenders punished, without Exception or Distinction, but with all the Moderation and Lenity that were consistent with Justice to the University, and to the Publick.

IN the Quarterly Examinations which by the Statutes are to be for eight Hours, at least two Hours were wasted in calling the Rolls, which sometimes did not leave sufficient Time to distinguish the different Degrees of Merit, and particularly of the Candidates for Premiums ; he has ordered that the Roll should be called but once, and that on the first Morning only, and to be finished before eight o'Clock, when the Examination begins, which leaves the whole Time appointed by the Statutes for the Purpose of examining the Students.

THE Favours of the College have been disposed of with the most scrupulous Regard to Justice and Good Example ; in the Distribu-
tion

tion of Natives Places and Exhibitions, * a new Mode was proposed by the Provost and agreed to by the Board.—That every Man's Pretensions should be determined by considering, first, his Attendance upon Religious Duties and his Moral Character; secondly, his Judgments at Examinations; thirdly, his Attendance on Lectures and other Duties; fourthly, his Marks at Scholarship; fifthly, his Seniority; and sixthly, his Poverty. In every Division the whole Academical Conduct of every Student was strictly reviewed, and every Place disposed of with a religious Attention to those different Kinds of Merit; which must be attended with the best Consequences, as it will make every Man, who seeks for the Favours of the University, attentive to every Step of his Conduct, which he knows will be minutely investigated and closely reviewed and considered.

HE has attended with the utmost Application and Vigilance to every Part of his Duty, and to enable the College to accomplish the many great and extensive Plans which he has proposed for its Improvement and Enlargement, He has set on foot a Scheme, for a reasonable and moderate Encrease of the Revenues of the University, which will be necessary for attaining those many great and useful Purposes.

* The first are Salaries of twenty Pounds Yearly, to such Scholars of the House as are Natives of *Ireland*; and the second, Annuities of different Values from five Pounds to ten Pounds Yearly.

THOSE

THOSE are Facts.—If any Thing wrong has been done, let the Fact be stated; if any Thing necessary or proper to be done, has been omitted, let the Omission be stated. The Publick may be amused, but will not be misled by electioneering Invectives and Scurrility.

IF this Gentleman has been able to do so much in six Months, what may not be expected in a Course of Years from his Perseverance? Those Persons are not Friends to their Country who endeavour to mislead the publick Opinion, to poison the Minds of the Students, and enflame them against their Governor, by the most false, wicked and malicious Calumnies. The Assistance of the able, learned and worthy Men, who are at present at the Board of Senior Fellows, does not diminish his Merit, but their Concurrence is a strong Proof of the Propriety of those Measures, of the Rectitude of his Conduct, and of the Integrity of his Intentions; and the most perfect Concord, and reciprocal Esteem have uniformly subsisted between him and those Gentlemen.

THE END.

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